

What is claimed is:

1. In combination:

a fluid filter centerpost assembly comprising:

5 a main body defining a flow opening and an open interior and having an oval shape in lateral cross section;

an oval-shaped radial flange;

10 an oval-shaped interior shelf defining a flow opening and being positioned on an incline in said open interior;

a closing cap assembled into said main body; and

15 a movable valve ball positioned on said interior shelf; and

a fluid filter cartridge received by said fluid filter centerpost assembly comprising:

a filtering media;

20 a closed endcap assembled to one end of said filtering media, said closed endcap including a blocking pin;

an open endcap assembled to another end of said filtering media; and

25 an oval-shaped seal received by said open endcap and being positioned around said main body and resting on said radial flange.

20 2. The combination of claim 1 wherein said main body is a unitary, molded plastic structure.

25 3. The combination of claim 2 wherein said interior shelf defines a track for guiding the movement of said valve ball.